

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-02 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /079 W

-----022761 230446Z /21

R 222030Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7656

INFO USSOUTHCOM

PANCANAL

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

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GUATEMALA FOR ROCAP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, EINV, PN

SUBJECT: GOP VIEWS VISITING MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF  
THE AMERICAS AS POTENTIAL INVESTORS

1. THE GOP HAS BROUGHT OUT ITS TOP ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL PERSONAGES TO MEET WITH THE 40-ODD-MAN GROUP OF VISITORS FROM THE COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAS NOW HOLDING A THREE-DAY CONFERENCE AT CONTADORA ISLAND, REPORTEDLY AIMED AT THE STUDY OF INVESTMENT POSSIBILITIES IN PANAMA. PRIOR TO THEIR DEPARTURE FROM PANAMA, THE VISITORS ARE ALSO SCHDEDULED TO MEET BRIEFLY WITH OFFICERS OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY REPRESENTING THE U.S. BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN PANAMA, BUT FOR THE MOST PART THE GOP ORGANIZERS APPEAR TO BE HOLDING THE VISITORS A CAPTIVE AUDIENCE.

2. AT THE OPENING SESSION THE DIRECTOR OF PANAMA'S FINANCE CORPORATION (COFINA) EDUARDO TEJEIRA, EXPLAINED HIS AGENCY'S ROLE IN SERVING AS A CATALYST BETWEEN FOREIGN  
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BANKS AND FOREIGN INVESTORS WITH INTERESTS IN PANAMA AND IN PROVIDING FINANCING AND GUARANTEES UNDER JOINT ARRANGEMENT WITH COMMERCIAL BANKS. MINISTER OF COMMERCE JULIO SOSA POINTED TO THE FAVORABLE ECONOMIC EFFECTS TO BE EXPECTED FROM THE TREATY, ESPECIALLY THE OPENING OF THE CANAL ZONE TO PRIVATE BUSINESS AND INVESTMENTS, AND WILL WORK FOR SUSTAINED ECONOMIC GROWTH AND AN INCREASE IN

PANAMA'S EXPORTS THROUGH CLOSE COOPERATION WITH U.S.  
MARKETING ORGANIZATIONS.

3. ALSO ATTENDING WERE PLANNING MINISTER, NICOLAS BARLETTA,  
VICE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE FRANCISCO RODRIGUEZ, AND  
PRESIDENT OF THE COFINA BOARD MARIO DE DIEGO, JR. (WHO  
UNOFFICIALLY IS EXPECTED TO BECOME THE NEXT CHAIRMAN OF  
THE PANAMA NATIONAL BANKING COMMISSION).

4. THE COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAS GROUP HAS NOT BEEN IN  
CONTACT WITH THE EMBASSY. THIS VISIT HAS BEEN A GOP SHOW  
FROM THE BEGINNING. MOORE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** VISITS, INVESTORS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOP VIEWS VISITING MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAS AS POTENTIAL INVESTORS  
**TAGS:** OTRA, EINV, PN, COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAS  
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**Review Markings:**  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014